



How to restring and tune a Paloma Shahi Baaja

I will instruct you on how to restring and tune the melody string on a Paloma shahi baaja.

Written By: Eric Ivy



INTRODUCTION

The melody strings are the most important strings on the shahi baaja. This guide will show how to repair a worn out melody string and then tune it properly.

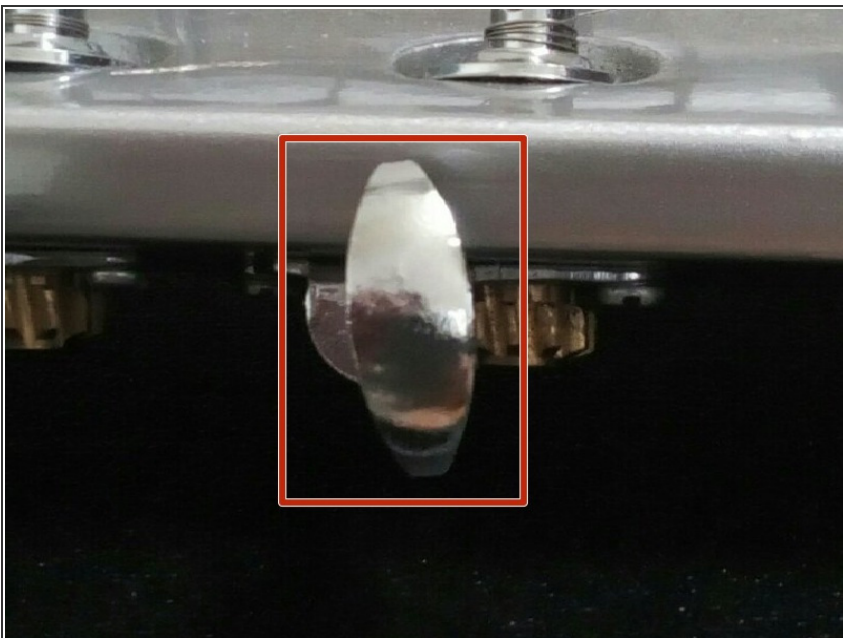
There are 15 tuning pegs on this instrument. This guide will focus on the two strings that the melody notes are played on. These strings are tuned with the tuning pegs that are seen all the way to the left.

Step 1 — How to restring and tune a Paloma Shahi Baaja



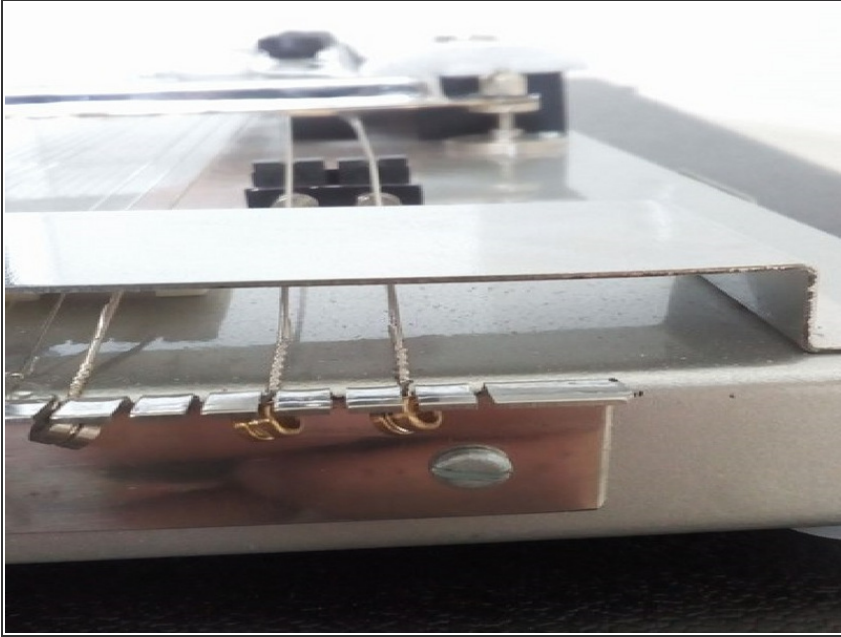
- Both strings are restrung and tuned exactly the same, so once one is tuned the other is done the exact same way.

Step 2



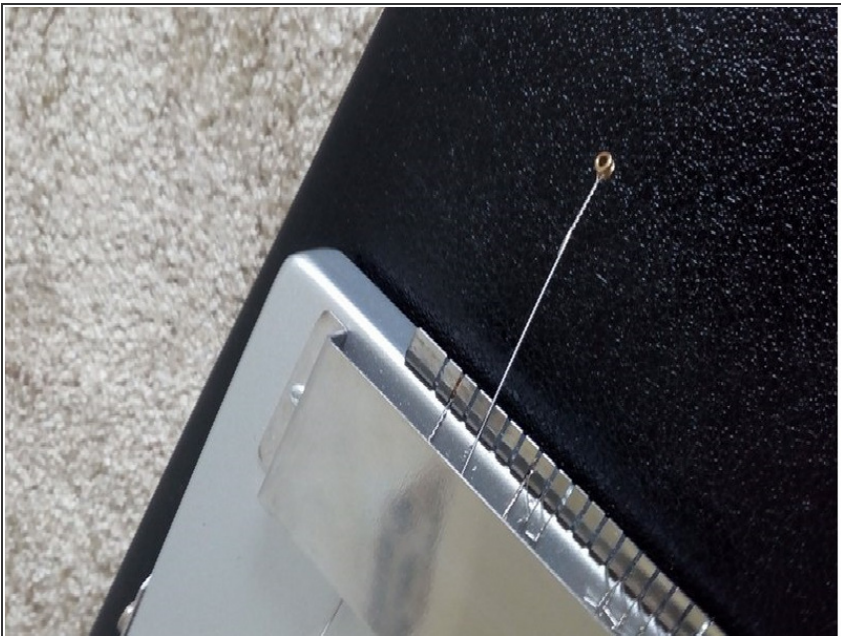
- Turning the tuning peg counterclockwise will tighten the string and raise the pitch of the note.
- A clockwise turn will loosen the string and lower the pitch of the note.

Step 3



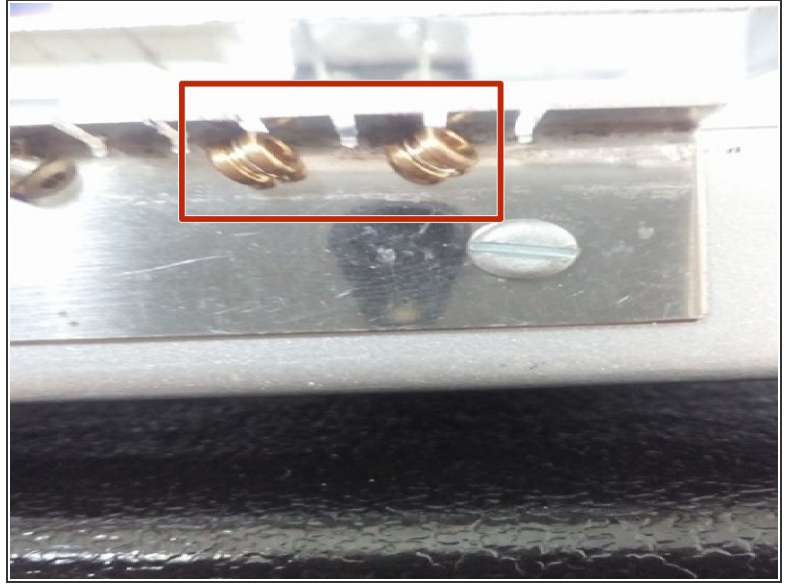
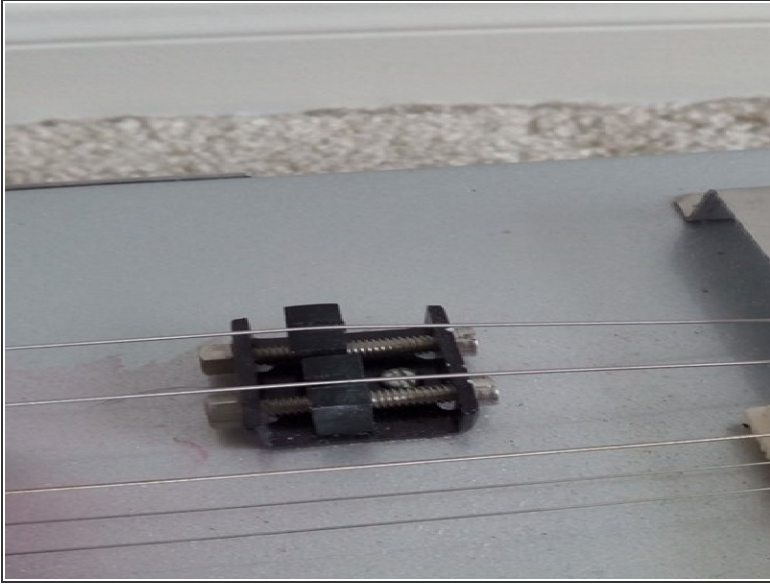
- Locate the ends of the strings. There are metal circles which hold the strings in place. Start to turn the tuning peg clockwise, and the string starts to loosen.

Step 4



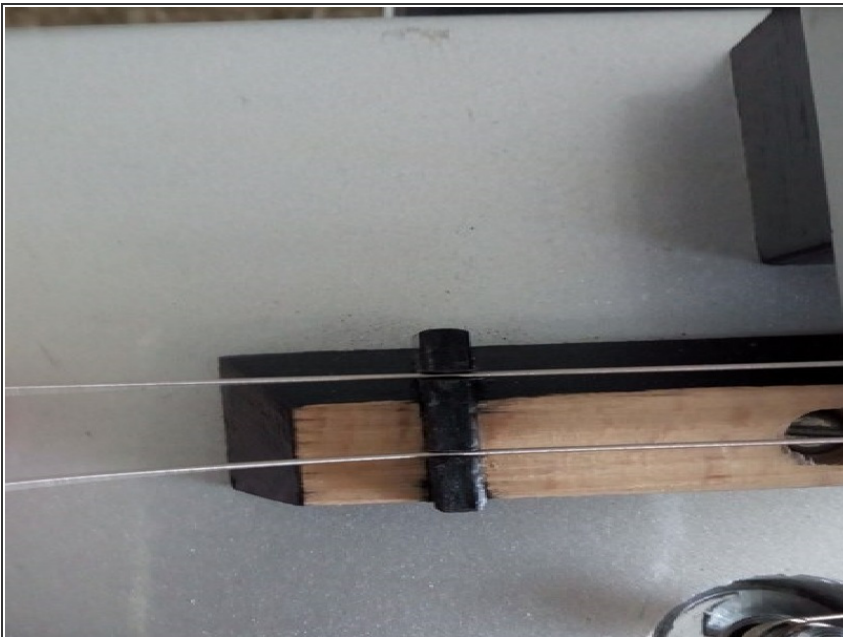
- Once the string is completely loose, pull it through the slit of the back piece. Watch closely and see how the string comes out.

Step 5



- Take the new string and run it back underneath the metal bridge cover.
- Make sure that the string lays within the notch of the bridge.

Step 6



- Once the string gets up closer to the tuning peg, it will pass over another bridge piece. This is called the nut. This part of the instrument also has a notch in which the string should fit.

Step 7



- Run the string through the tuner hole. Lead only half an inch of the string through the hole.

Step 8



- Start to turn the tuning peg counter clockwise, and keep the half inch piece of string on top of the string which is being wound around the tuner. This will stop the string from jumping over the tuner and make for a tighter string. Make sure that the string is laying over the top of the tuner as seen in the picture.
- Also, as the string gets tighter, watch to make sure that the string is still resting in both of the bridge notches (steps 5 & 6).

Step 9



- Tuning- The strings should be laying over the top of the tuning pegs as seen in picture 2.
- ① You may use a guitar tuner to tune your strings.

Step 10



- Pluck the string. Picture 4 shows a C note which is flat. Everything that falls to the left of the zero on the tuner is flat, and everything that falls to the right of the zero is sharp. In this particular case, the note must be raised until the zero is reached. So, the tuning peg must be turned counter clockwise to raise the note.

Step 11



- Pluck the note again. Picture 5 shows that the tuner's needle is heading in the right direction. However, the note is still flat, so turn the tuning peg counter clockwise until the arrow reaches the zero.

Step 12



- The note has been raise to high and is now sharp. So, the tuning peg must be turned clockwise to lower the pitch down to the zero on the tuner.

Step 13



- The note is perfectly in tune now.

Step 14



- To tune the other melody string, simply repeat this process.

Follow the steps, and your shahi baaja will be in tune.